REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request that the foregoing amendments be made prior to examination of the present application. Claims 15-21 and 27-28 are requested to be cancelled. Claims 1, 11, and 22 are currently being amended.

This amendment changes and deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-14 and 22-26 are now pending in this application. An early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date December 17, 2003

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